

# The Weekly Courier

CONNELLSVILLE, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 21, 1913

EIGHT PAGES

VOL. 36, NO. 6.

## Prices and Prospects.

### COKE MARKET FIRM ON \$2.50 AS BASIS FOR ALL CONTRACTS

Prompt Market Irregular and Sells Up to \$2.60 in Spots.

### PRICE FOR OFF GRADES SHADED

Regulation as to Requirements of Shipments on Contracts Has Been Maintained, but Arrangement is Not Perfect; Fig. Two Continues Firm.

Special to The Weekly Courier  
PITTSBURGH, Aug. 20.—The situation referred to a week ago, of sharp decline from offerings of prompt furnace coke, with very limited demand for such delivery, has resulted in a price of \$2.50 for prompt shipment but it is said that this is no coke of standard grade.

There is no coke offered for forward delivery at less than the \$2.50 price which is firmly maintained on all deliveries except for the relatively small tonnages of prompt coke offered at concessive prices as indicated. The coke thus offered is all of the "indifferent" variety, so far as is known.

There have been several important negotiations on for forward coke all on the basis of \$2.50, without any concessions being offered from the \$2.50 price, but with few of the new regulations being closed. An exception is that of a large Buffalo consumer, which has bought a round tonnage of standing coke for delivery at the end of the year at \$2.50, taking a smaller tonnage of off grade coke at a price reported to be \$2.00. A sale was concluded for 100,000 tons monthly of furnace coke over balance of the year at the standard price of \$2.50.

For the month production of coke has been closely regulated to requirements of shipments on contracts but the regulation has not been perfect. Two weeks ago shipments were in excess of requirements and buyers appeared in the prompt market to such an extent that \$2.50 was paid in a slight curtailment in requirements at several points resulting in a slight surplus as did the previous scarcity.

It is between seasons as to coke buying since furnaces which were uncovered for August have fully covered their requirements while such furnaces as are not covered for September are not yet prominently in the market.

Of the consumptive demand which came into the market by the expiration of contracts on June 30, the bulk is being covered from month to month but in several isolated instances purchases have been made to October 1, or to the end of the year. It is hinted that in some of these cases a price guarantee may be given.

Occasional inquiry is developing for furnace coke contracts for next year but it does not appear that there are any serious negotiations.

Foundry coke continues firm at the recent advance and while shipments are equally limited partly because it is difficult to secure the necessary labor to handle a foundry coke as compared with furnace.

The market stands quotable as follows:  
Prompt furnace \$2.50  
Contract furnace \$2.50  
Prompt foundry \$2.50  
Contract foundry \$2.50

### MARYLAND STEEL

Pushing Improvement Work at Plant at Sparrows Point

The Maryland Steel Company at Sparrows Point, is pushing the work on the various improvements which were authorized some months ago and which are now under way. The demolishing of C blast furnace to make room for the rebuilding of a new and modern furnace on the same site, with ship hoist and steam bins, is well advanced and the new furnace should be ready for operation early next year.

As soon as C is completed D furnace will be torn down for rebuilding, which will then leave the plant with three modern furnaces.

### IMPROVEMENT IS SHOWN IN BOOKINGS OF STEEL TRADE

Agricultural Implement Interest Comes Into the Market. Output to be Maintained and Speculation in the Weekly Courier.

Special to The Weekly Courier  
PITTSBURGH, Aug. 20.—The American Metal Market and Daily Iron & Steel Report will say tomorrow.

There has been a slight but noticeable improvement in steel bookings. The bulk of the business is for early deliveries and the indication from the current trend is that the recent high rate of consumption will be well maintained. A conspicuous instance of forward buying, however, is furnished by the fact that four large agricultural implement interests have contracted for their tonnage of sheets for the season.

Following the closing of practically the whole implement trade for their steel bars for the season.

Isolated instances of groups of mills running at less than full capacity have been mentioned in an earlier article as representative of the steel industry in general. These are quite in keeping with the fact that between 50 and 60% of capacity and the leading wire interest, the production of steel has not been correspondingly curtailed, indicating that other finishing departments are using more steel.

A weakness in plate and shape prices of several works standing in the east has not extended to the general market, which remains quiet.

In all districts steel bars remain firmly held at \$1.40 with actual quotations in books for several months. The price for several months has been reported in some quarters as wavered. The firm in the recent buying movement did not extend far beyond the immediate material advance. Prompt Connellsville furnace coke has been ended but the contract price remains at \$2.50.

### FIRST AID CONTEST

Many Teams are Entered for Oxford Park This Saturday

Arrangements are now complete for the first aid contest to be held next Saturday at Oxford Park. The contest will be a contest of the first aid teams of the various clubs and organizations of the city.

### PENNSY TONNAGE

Heavy Movement in Fuel During Last Six Months

The fuel tonnage of the Pennsylvania railroad east of Pittsburgh and Erie for six months was unusually heavy and the company is still reporting extraordinary fuel shipments. Tonnage of bituminous coal during the first half of this year aggregated 2,224,410 tons against 2,211,731 tons in the like time last year. The increase in 1911 and 1912 was 10.5 per cent.

### BALD AT TAP COAL

British Columbia Public Opposes Mine Owners' Move

ANALCOVER, B. C., Aug. 20.—Public indignation over the proposed operation of a mine in the district of refusal of the producers to operate the mine in mines east of here is liable to affect it was declared today the opening of government mine in Alaska.

Mine operators declare they will not permit the mine to be operated until they are being "bitterly" denounced.

## Review of the Connellsville Coke Trade.

### Statistical Summary.

PRODUCTION		WEEK ENDING AUGUST 16, 1913		WEEK ENDING AUGUST 9, 1913	
DISTRICT		Tons		Tons	
Ovens	In	Out	Tons	In	Out
Connellsville	22,819	18,179	1,140	22,819	18,179
Lower Connellsville	16,719	13,181	1,188	16,719	13,181
Totals	39,538	31,360	2,328	39,538	31,360
FURNACE OVENS		Tons		Tons	
Connellsville	18,009	10,006	1,006	18,009	10,006
Lower Connellsville	11,710	11,612	1,182	11,710	11,612
Totals	29,719	21,618	2,188	29,719	21,618
MECHANICAL OVENS		Tons		Tons	
Connellsville	1,230	171	1,077	1,230	171
Lower Connellsville	11,197	8,709	1,182	11,197	8,709
Totals	12,427	8,880	2,259	12,427	8,880
SHIPMENTS		WEEK ENDING AUGUST 16, 1913		WEEK ENDING AUGUST 9, 1913	
To Pittsburgh		Tons		Tons	
To Points East of the Region		Tons		Tons	
Totals		Tons		Tons	

## ORE RATE CUTS COMPLICATE FURNACE FIGHT

Railroads Create a New District, Making 70-Cent Tariff to Beaver Valley, and Indicate Abandonment of the "Assembling Cost" Theory Denounced by Commerce Commission, Pittsburgh and Wheeling to Keep Up Fight.

The fight of the Pittsburgh and Wheeling furnaces against the proposed 85-cent tariff for the coke from the Lake Erie ports to the Pittsburgh district, which was seriously complicated during the week by the tariff reductions in the Lake Erie ports, is now being complicated by the fact that the Pittsburgh and Wheeling furnaces are now being forced to pay a 70-cent tariff for the coke from the Lake Erie ports to the Pittsburgh district.

The Pittsburgh and Wheeling furnaces are now being forced to pay a 70-cent tariff for the coke from the Lake Erie ports to the Pittsburgh district. This is a result of the fact that the Pittsburgh and Wheeling furnaces are now being forced to pay a 70-cent tariff for the coke from the Lake Erie ports to the Pittsburgh district.

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## Production and Output.

### THE UPPER CONNELLSVILLE AND GREENSBURG REGIONS

They Continue to Show a Gain in Production in Both Districts Making Full Time

A section in the Pittsburgh region was made in the Upper Connellsville and Greensburg regions. The output of the Upper Connellsville region was 10,000 tons, and the output of the Greensburg region was 10,000 tons.

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### COKE REGION RUNS STEADILY; OUTPUT NEAR 400,000 TONS

Production Shows a Slight Gain Over the Previous Week.

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Shipments Run a Shade Ahead of the Output for the Week. More Ovens are in the Lower Region. Gain Made in Shipments Sent West.

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Connellsville Coke Trade

The Connellsville Courier

Circulates Wherever Coke is Manufactured or Used.

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Lower Connellsville	16,749	13,261	3,388	167,073	16,749	13,250	3,497	169,000
Totals	39,568	31,540	7,528	396,918	39,568	31,429	7,637	398,845
TURNACE OVENS.								
Connellsville	18,600	15,006	3,593	189,975	18,600	15,000	3,593	189,975
Lower Connellsville	3,552	4,852	800	58,615	3,552	3,672	880	55,000
Totals	22,152	19,858	4,393	248,590	22,152	18,672	4,473	244,975
MERCHANT OVENS.								
Connellsville	4,250	3,473	1,977	39,870	4,250	3,473	1,977	39,870
Lower Connellsville	11,197	8,709	2,488	109,057	11,197	8,578	2,617	107,100
Totals	15,447	11,982	4,465	148,927	15,447	11,751	4,594	146,970
SHIPMENTS.								
To Pittsburgh		3,834 Cars				3,991 Cars		
To Points West of Pittsburgh		4,428 Cars				6,343 Cars		
To Points East of the Region		1,357 Cars				1,104 Cars		
Totals		11,419 Cars				11,438 Cars		

Production and Output.

THE UPPER CONNELLVILLE AND GREENSBURG REGIONS

COKE REGION RUNS STEADILY; OUTPUT NEAR 400,000 TONS

They Continue to Show a Gain in Production, Both Districts Making Full Time.

A decided gain in production was made in the Upper Connellsville and Greensburg Connellsville districts last week. The output increased from 23,000 to 47,000 tons. The Greensburg Connellsville region gained something like 5,000 tons, with the Upper Connellsville showing a 4,000-ton increase. A summary of the output of the two regions is as follows:

Production Shows a Slight Gain Over the Previous Week.

CONSUMERS TAKE ALL THE COKE

Shipments Run a Week Ahead of the Output for the Week; More Ovens are Fired in the Lower Region; Gain Made in Shipments Sent West.

The Connellsville coke region is running close to its normal gain, production has been having fallen little short of the 400,000 ton mark. Both regions operated steadily and the shortage was about on a par with the week previous, being slightly ahead of it. The shipments exceeded production by something more than 2,000 tons. What little coke has been permitted to accumulate on the yards is fast being shipped. The West end of the coke region is more of a yard of the effort on the part of merchants operators to regulate their output by the market, additional ovens were put into blast during the past week.

Although there was some falling off in Pittsburgh shipments, it was more than offset by additional gains in western points, and a slight increase to the east. The eastern shipments had slumped considerably but during the past few weeks have shown a disposition to pick up.

There was a further distinct gain in the shipments to the west.

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This coke region is more of a yard of the effort on the part of merchants operators to regulate their output by the market, additional ovens were put into blast during the past week.

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With Their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to  
Saturday, Aug. 16, 1913.

Total Owning	In	Name of Works	Name of Operators	P. O. Address
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Total Owning	In	Name of Works	Name of Operators	P. O. Address
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Total Owning	In	Name of Works	Name of Operators	P. O. Address
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ESTABLISHED 1859 INCORPORATED 1894

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M. M. COCHRAN, President. W. HARRY BROWN, Vice President. J. H. PRICE, Sec. and Treas.

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Brownsville Coke Company,  
Plumer Coke Company,  
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**200,000 Tons Monthly Production.      60,000 Tons Monthly Low Phos Coke.**

***First-Class Service.***

***First-Class Inspection.***      ***First-Class Coke.***      ***First-Class Service.***























## COAL PRODUCTION FOR 1912 MAKES A NEW STATE RECORD

Showing a Remarkable View of the Slump in 1911.

### FAYETTE COUNTY GAINS HUGE

More Than Two-Thirds of Increased Output for the State is Shown in This County and Westmoreland. Total Value Reaches \$176,000,000.

The output of bituminous coal in Pennsylvania, according to E. W. Parker, of the United States Geological Survey, who compiled the figures in co-operation with the State Topographic and Geological Survey Commission, established a new record in 1912, and exceeded the previous maximum of 1910 by 11,345,944 short tons in quantity and by \$16,340,987 in value. A slump in the iron and steel trade during 1911 resulted in a diminished output of coal, the effect in Pennsylvania being exhibited chiefly in the Connelville coke district. Similarly the revival in the iron and steel industry in 1912 is reflected in an increased production of bituminous coal in Pennsylvania more than two-thirds of the total increase being in Fayette and Westmoreland counties, which constitute the Connelville district. The production decreased from 15,531,525 short tons, valued at \$18,029,510, in 1910 to 14,481,257 tons, valued at \$16,154,952, in 1911, the smaller production being accompanied by a slight decline in price. In 1912 prices were somewhat improved and the production increased to 18,185,483 short tons, valued at \$19,210,457. The gain in quantity in 1912 over 1911 was 3,704,226 tons, or nearly 26 per cent; the increase in value was \$2,215,545, or 16 per cent. Production increased generally throughout the state, 15 out of 23 counties showing gains, but as previously stated, by far the greatest increases were in the two counties named. Fayette county showed a gain of 3,156,495 tons and Westmoreland a gain of 4,877,354 tons. The combined production of these two counties in 1912 was 8,033,849 tons, which exceeded the entire production of Illinois, the third coal-producing state in the United States. Fayette county increased its production 1,361,265 tons, Allegheny county 1,063,379 tons, Cambria county increased 854,522 tons, and Somerset county 710,723 tons. Other changes were relatively unimportant. No less notable than the increase in production in 1912 was the extension of the use of mining machinery and the larger tonnage of machinery was coal. In 1911 the quantity of coal mined by machines was 59,151,523 short tons, or 47.78 per cent of the total; in 1912 the quantity so mined was 82,192,042 tons, or 50.5 per cent of the total. The number of machines in use in 1912 was 8,176, against 5,716 in 1911. Pennsylvania, like West Virginia, presents a commendable record in the small percentage of bituminous coal impurely mined. Of the total production in 1912, only 3,917,746 tons, or 2 per cent, were reported as having been "mined by the powder" or shot off the solid. The quantity reported as mined by hand was 6,435,218 tons, which added to the machine-mined tonnage, makes a total of 138,737,260 tons, or 84.5 per cent of the entire production that was undercut, sheared or otherwise "mined" before being shot or wedged down. The quantity produced in 1912 for which the methods of mining were not reported was 28,228,444 tons, or 12.5 per cent of the total. Very little of the bituminous coal produced in Pennsylvania is washed before being sold or used in the manufacture of coke. The quantity washed in 1912 was 4,819,550 tons, or 2 per cent of the total. It yielded 4,215,162 tons of cleaned coal and 593,168 tons of refuse. Statistics compiled by the United States Bureau of Mines show that 427 men were killed in and about the bituminous coal mines of Pennsylvania in 1912, a decrease of 92 from 1911, when there were 529 fatalities.

### DECISION DISCUSSED

Trade Paper Comments on Fayette County's Ruling. It has long been thought that in accord with an extended series of decisions it would some day be ruled that a coal or like deed could not contain a clause giving the grantee right to buy a part of the surface whenever he desired at a fixed price making the deed contained a clause limiting the period during which the option might be exercised to 21 years after the death of the optioner or for some shorter period. J. Q. Van Swearingen, judge of the Fayette county court, has just made such a decision, says Coal Age, in the case of William Barton, Priscilla King and Harriet Coffman versus the Thaw Trust. The judge has declared that this option to purchase is and has been from the beginning null and void and has ordered that this decision be entered on the docket against this clause in both the deeds mentioned. We have no doubt that the decision will stand the test of appeal. Perpetual rights of the kind which the deeds seek to establish, and against the public interest. The public interest is larger even than the need of the coal operator, and the latter will, we are sure, look at the matter from a broad national viewpoint. The law seeks that there shall be no masterless land; as our country grows the best sites must not be made worthless by a divided and unsettled ownership. The right to buy must not perpetually exist to cloud titles; it must be legalized without limitations, lest it serve as an opportunity to levy blackmail under local sections.

## JOHN J. DRISCOLL, VETERAN B. & O. OFFICIAL, IS DEAD

Successful at East Connelville Home After Illness of Several Months; Former Superintendent Here.

John J. Driscoll, trainmaster of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad on the Butler & Kane division and former superintendent here, died on Saturday at his home in East Connelville, following an illness of several months. Mr. Driscoll's health began failing some months ago while he was superintendent of the Cumberland division. He was given a furlough, but later returned to work at Butler. Last March he gave up his duties with the railroad and came to his home at East Connelville. During the past few weeks his death had been momentarily expected.

Mr. Driscoll was 48 years old. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Driscoll, both deceased, and was born in Allegheny county, New York. Mr. Driscoll was employed as a telegraph operator by the Baltimore & Ohio on October 1, 1888, in which capacity he served until October 1, 1895, when he was transferred to the Pittsburg division as train dispatcher. Nine years later he came to Connelville as train dispatcher of the Connelville division, and on February 1, 1902 was assigned to Rockwood as trainmaster. On June 1, 1913, he returned to Connelville as trainmaster, and on December 28, 1912, was promoted to the position of superintendent of the Connelville division, which position he held until April 1, 1913, when he was transferred to Cumberland as superintendent of the Cumberland division.

He married Miss Catherine Killgallon of McKeesport, who, with the following children, survive: Norbert, John, James, Veronica, Catherine, Lawrence, Louis and Camillo, all at home. The following brothers and sister also survive: James J. Driscoll, of the Courier; P. F. Driscoll, traffic manager of the Western Union in Pittsburg; and Charles Driscoll, operator for the Baltimore & Ohio. Also Miss Sarah Driscoll of Coulter; and Mrs. M. J. Foley, Yonkers, N. Y.

## BALTIMORE & OHIO ADOPTS TONNAGE ESTIMATE SYSTEM

Table is Prepared for Use of Yardmasters and Conductors Where Scales are Lacking.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company has adopted a new system of gauging tonnage where yard masters and conductors are required to estimate the capacity of trains. This is a frequently found necessity, especially in heavy grades, and also in times when traffic is more than ordinarily brisk. It is necessary to correctly estimate tonnage to avoid overloading the train, and the time required in reaching a destination.

The following schedule, prepared by Division Superintendent C. L. French, does not contain all of the rolling stock used on the road, but it does list equipment most frequently employed on the Connelville division: Steel racks, 115,000 pounds capacity; 45 tons steel racks, 140,000 pounds capacity; 95 tons; hoppers, 100,000 pounds capacity; 70 tons; gondolas, 100,000 pounds capacity; 72 tons; other gondolas, 100,000 pounds capacity; 75 tons; gondolas of 50,000 pounds capacity; 56 tons.

The schedule of tonnage is greater than the capacity of the cars. This is accounted for by the fact that shippers, as a rule, overload cars, in addition to the weight of the rolling stock itself which must be taken care of.

## COAL OUTPUT OF ALASKA

Production for 1912 Shows Decrease From That of 1911.

The production of coal in Alaska in 1912, as stated by E. W. Parker, of the United States Geological Survey, was 355 tons, valued at \$2,840, a decrease from 900 tons, valued at \$7,200, in 1911. The production in 1912 does not include the coal mined under the directions of the United States Bureau of Mines for testing purposes, which amounted to 900 tons, but of course no commercial value can be placed upon this coal.

A little coal was mined in Alaska prior to 1884 by the crews of vessels that ran short of fuel, but this probably did not aggregate more than a few hundred tons. The total output of coal prior to 1885, including that mined by the Russians, was probably less than 10,000 tons.

Subscribe for The Weekly Courier.

## RAPID PROGRESS IS MADE ON WEST PENN LINE INTO LATROBE

Operating Cars Now to Whitney, and Will Reach Trauger Oct. 1.

### BRIDGE WORK CAUSES A DELAY

Steel Has Been Delivered at Hecla and Only One Span Remains to be Placed; Will Reach Mt. Pleasant Township High School September 1.

Rapid progress is being made on the West Penn's extension from Hecla to Latrobe. The steel for the bridges at Hecla has been delivered and a portion of the structure erected. When the remaining 130-foot span over the railroad tracks is placed, it will be possible to ballast the mile of track which has already been laid. That the company will have completed the line to the Mount Pleasant township high school by September 1, and to Trauger by October 1, is the opinion of officials who have the work in charge.

Virtually all of the grading has been completed and much of the track is down. A bridge, remaining to be placed at Culbert, work on it has not yet started. At the Latrobe end of the line, 1.5 miles of track are already in operation. Cars are now running from Latrobe to Whitney, by way of Sagamore. Once the bridges are completed rapid progress will be made and it is possible that cars will be running into Latrobe before the first of the year. Officials are not overconfident, however, of completing the line before early in the spring. The weather is apt to have considerable bearing on the matter.

## STANDARD TEAMS COMPLETE

Auto Title and Dinner is Prize to Sidney Hayes' First Aid Team.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Aug. 18.—Fully two hundred persons attended the first aid meet held in the Academy Saturday evening under the direction of Dr. John L. Burkholder, who has charge of the first aid department. The prize offered by Superintendent James Mack is an auto ride and dinner at the place where the winners wish to go. The team captained by Sidney Hayes was the winner. The other captains were Martin Laughlin, John Rodgers and C. J. Spence.

The judges were Dr. F. L. Marsh, Stephen Arkwright and Joseph Senack. The standard teams are among the best trained teams in this part of the coke region. They hold regular practice once every month at Standard.

The Weekly Courier, \$1.00 a year.

## BARRIER PRACTICAL

Bureau of Mines Tests Rock Dust in Bricketon Mine.

An experimental explosion of coal dust, in which a Tuffnel rock dust barrier was tried, was held at the Bureau of Mines' experimental mine near Bricketon. The experiment was made at the suggestion of Paul Weiss, director of mines of France, and Andre Defne, engineer of the corps of mines of France, who are on their way to attend the International Geological Congress in Toronto.

The Tuffnel barrier is being used extensively in France to decrease the danger caused by explosions of coal dust. Its use came about following the recent explosion at the Courrières mine, when 3,000 men were killed. The Bureau of Mines, the United States has so far experimented little with them, being now engaged in trying to perfect a method to prevent the explosion, rather than to lessen their after effect. The explosion, however, proved entirely successful, demonstrating thoroughly the efficiency of the barrier.

Grangers Picnic.

The Grangers of Curfew, Waltersburg, Franking, Dunbar, Perryopolis and Morning Star will hold the 11th annual picnic Saturday, August 23 at Grangers' Grove near Rogers' Ferry. Denny O'Neill is among the speakers.

## RAILS

40, 56, 60, 70, 75, 80, 85 and 90 lb.

Relaying Rails

8, 12, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 lb.

New Steel Rails

These rails are in stock at our Pittsburgh yards, and can be shipped immediately, also second hand rails in building and contract work.

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## PATENTS

Designs, Estimates, Consultation, Reports Designer of Special Machinery for Any Purpose.

MY PATENT SEARCHES include the usual search of the Patent Office records as to Patentability and an opinion based on 20 years Mechanical Engineering Experience as to the practical merits of the device, and the probable chance of its commercial success if a Patent is secured—all for \$10.00.

Three out of every four inventions are not worth patenting—if you want to know why write or phone at my expense Court 350 (day)—Highland 2001-J (evening). References, Germania Savings Bank, Pittsburgh, Pa.; The "Courier," Connelville, Pa.

Walter W. Macfarren, Mechanical Engineer & Solicitor of Patents, Bessemer Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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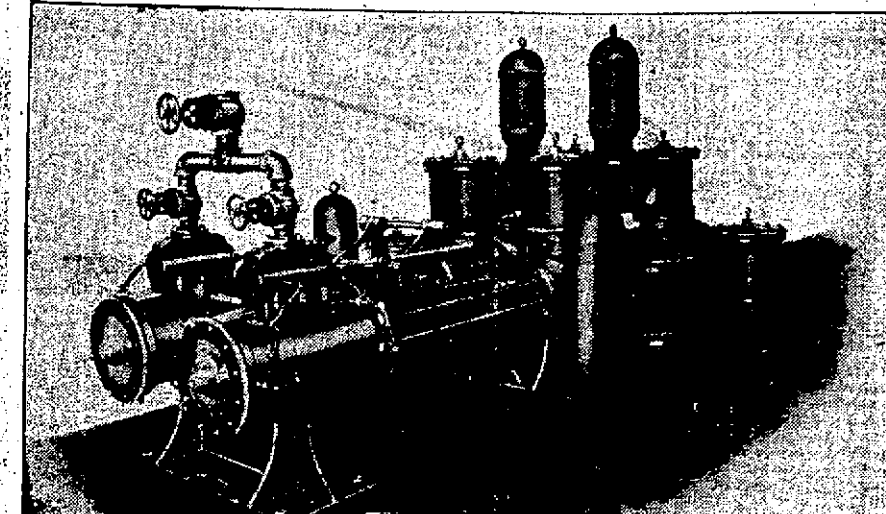
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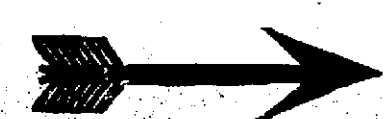
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No Coke Oven Door is correctly designed unless the brick can freely expand and contract under wide variations of temperature. ANY DOOR HAVING THE ABOVE FEATURE INFRINGES ON THIS PATENT.

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